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Of Attorneys for Defendant City of Portland

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF OREGON
PORTLAND DIVISION

INDEX NEWSPAPERS LLC, a Washington limited-liability company, dba PORTLAND MERCURY; DOUG BROWN; BRIAN CONLEY; SAM GEHRKE; MATHIEU LEWIS-ROLLAND; KAT MAHONEY; SERGIO OLMOS; JOHN RUDOFF; ALEX MILAN TRACY; TUCK WOODSTOCK; JUSTIN YAU; and those similarly situated,

PLAINTIFFS,

v.

CITY OF PORTLAND, a municipal corporation; JOHN DOES 1-60, officers of Portland Police Bureau and other agencies working in concert; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY; and U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE,

DEFENDANTS.

Case No. 3:20-cv-1035-SI

CITY MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION FOR TEMPORARY
RESTRAINING ORDER AGAINST
FEDERAL DEFENDANTS

The City of Portland hereby supports plaintiffs' Motion for Temporary Restraining Order (Dkt. No. 54) against defendants U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Marshals Service (collectively, "federal defendants"), without prejudice to the City's own legal position and without waiving any of the City's defenses or potential legal or factual arguments in the present case.

Quite simply, the City objects to federal defendants targeting non-violent protesters, reporters, and legal observers. The City also strongly objects to the continued unlawful presence of heavily armed federal officers on Portland streets despite the City's repeated requests to the contrary. The actions of federal defendants are escalating violence, inflaming tensions in our City, and harming Portlanders who seek to engage in non-violent protests in support of racial justice. Serious and credible allegations have been made that the federal government has effectively kidnapped people off Portland streets, among other abuses of power. The force used by federal defendants has allegedly also resulted in at least one very serious injury to a person shot in the head with an impact munition. The City rejects the unlawful actions of federal defendants and believes that a temporary restraining order is necessary to prevent further abuses.

For those reasons, the City supports plaintiffs' Motion for Temporary Restraining Order against federal defendants.

Dated: July 22, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Denis M. Vannier

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